Manitoba

Annual Report 1988 - 89

Farm Lands Ownership Board

90-02774/

Minister of
Agriculture

Room 165
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

To His Honour,
George Johnson
Lieutenant Governor for
the Province of Manitoba

Your Honour:

I have the honour to submit herewith the Report of The Manitoba Farm Lands Ownership Board for the period April 1, 1938 to March 31, 1939.

Yours truly,

Glen Findlay

Glen M. Findlay,
Minister

Manitoba

Manitoba

Deputy Minister of Agriculture

Room 159
Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

(204) 945-3734

Honourable Glen M. Findlay
Minister of Agriculture
Province of Manitoba

Sir:

It is my pleasure to present the annual report of The Manitoba Farm Lands Ownership Board for the twelve month period ending March 31, 1989.

Respectfully submitted,

D. J. Lacomy
Deputy Minister

Manitoba

Agriculture

THE FARM LANDS OWNERSHIP BOARD
803 - 401 York Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0P8

August 30, 1989

The Honourable Glen M. Findlay
Minister of Agriculture
165 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Findlay:

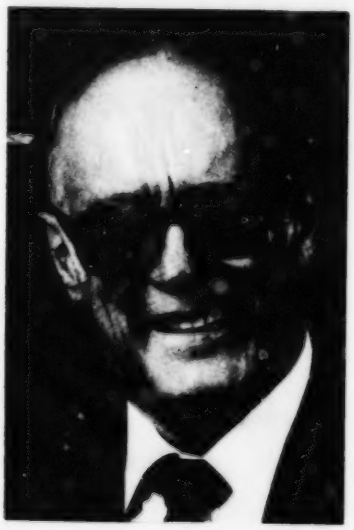
I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of The Manitoba Farm Lands Ownership Board for the period April 1, 1988 to March 31, 1989.

I wish to thank the Board Members for their dedication and cooperation in dealing with the applications for exemption.

Furthermore, I wish to thank our staff for the expert way in which they have dealt with inquiries from individuals, law and real estate firms, seeking information and assistance on farm land ownership Legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Arnold Brown,
Chairman



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANITOBA FARM LANDS OWNERSHIP BOARD
FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 1988 to MARCH 31, 1989

The Manitoba Farm Lands Ownership Board is a quasi-judicial and administrative body established under Section 6(1) of The Farm Lands Ownership Act. The Board is responsible for the administration and enforcement of The Farm Lands Ownership Act as well as certain additional duties and powers as specified in the Legislation.

BOARD MEMBERS

Arnold Brown, Chairman	-	Winkler, Manitoba
Garnet McDonald, Vice-Chairman	-	Virden, Manitoba
Lorne Radcliffe, Member	-	Cardale, Manitoba
Joan Lewis, Member	-	McAuley, Manitoba
Beverley McKinney, Member	-	Waskada, Manitoba

ADMINISTRATION

H. Dale Osborne, A/Executive Director
R. Winters, Solicitor, Department of Attorney General

STAFF

H. Dale Osborne, Investigations Officer
Dorothy Nowicki, Administrative Assistant
Marian Ferens, Clerk

GENERAL

The Farm Lands Ownership Act was passed by the Legislature in 1983 and proclaimed September 26, 1984.

The Administration of the Act involves the Board and administrative staff in all areas relating to the acquiring of an interest in farm land in Manitoba.

Certain categories of persons can acquire or hold an interest in Manitoba farm land without restriction or limitation. These include (a) a resident, (b) a family farm

corporation (as defined in the Act), (c) a municipality, (d) a local government district; or (e) an agency of the government. The Act is not retroactive.

Non-residents can acquire an interest in Manitoba farm land if it is bequeathed to them by a Manitoba resident, a retired farmer, or the spouse of a retired farmer.

A retired farmer or his/her spouse or an active farmer or his/her spouse who has farmed at least ten years, may also convey an interest in farm land to certain immediate relatives, even though these may be non-residents.

BOARD ACTIVITIES

Under Section 3(3) of The Farm Lands Ownership Act, the Board has authority to exempt individuals, corporations, farm land or an interest in farm land, etc., from any provisions of the legislation.

The Board met nine times between April 1, 1988 to March 31, 1989 to consider applications and exemptions.

One hundred and forty-five applications for exemptions were considered by the Board. One hundred and forty-two applications were approved, while three applications were denied. Farm land involved in the applications totalled 64,599 acres. Exemption denials constituted 1,790 acres (2%).

Regulation 204/87 R includes guidelines to assist the Board when considering applications for exemptions.

ADMINISTRATION

The 1988/89 year continued to be a demanding one for the Board and staff. Inquiries from individuals, law and real estate firms seeking information and assistance on the legislation were dealt with by the office.

Under the Real Property Act and Registry Act, transfers of land over five acres tendered for registration must be accompanied by a statutory declaration stating information pertinent to the transaction. These forms are forwarded to the Board office. In the period April 1, 1988 to March 31, 1989, the office received and processed 6,426 statutory declarations.

The Board office supplies data for statistical purposes to the Economic Analysis section. The acquisition of an office computer has improved this service.

SUMMARY

The administration and enforcement of the Farm Lands Ownership Act has continued smoothly as the public, Board and staff continue to become more familiar with the legislation. It should be noted that the Board receives a large number of inquiries each year from would-be applicants for exemptions under the Act. The low percentage of denials (2%) noted in the report is due mainly to the fact that many non-residents decide against applying for an exemption after learning more about the legislation from board staff.

June 28, 1989